Earnings by Railways

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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to project profit this fiscal without increasing fares, Indian Railways is aiming at 12 percent growth in passenger earnings by reallocating coaches from trains with low occupancy to those having high waiting lists;

(b) if so, whether zonal railways have been empowered to take decision in this regard by studying occupancy patterns of different trains operating under them;

(c) whether a new management information system software has been devised on the basis of below occupancy data raised from computerized passenger reservation system all over the country; and

(d) whether this has improved the financial position of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) With a view to achieve optimum utilisation of available accommodation and to maximize the passenger earnings therefrom, a Passenger Profile Management (PPM) project has been launched on Indian Railways. This would be done by critically analysing the trend of occupation and earnings of different trains and taking various corrective action including adjustment of coaches from low occupancy trains to those having good patronization and long waiting list.

(b) Zonal Railways are empowered to review the occupation and take necessary action wherever operationally feasible including modification of the composition of trains.

(c) A new Management Information System (MIS) software has been developed & made available to all Zonal Railways.

(d) As the project is in its initial stage of implementation, its full impact on financial position cannot be quantified. However, the passenger earnings have shown an encouraging growth of 11.36% during the first three months, April to June, of the current financial year, as compared to the same period of last year.